

Finance Committee Minutes
Tuesday, December, 3, 2019 4:00 PM
Keil Administration Building Third Floor Conference Room

Members Present: Todd Covault; Beth Nolan; Dan Oakes; Superintendent Paul Fregeau; Fred Bouchard; and, Jeff Dase

Others Present: Beth Creighton; Kendall Briscoe; Regan Lewis; Andrew Taylor; Deanne Hillman; Chrissy Pettit; Kay Geskey; Mary Ann Schloz; and, Henry Walker

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. There was no public participation. The minutes from the October 29, 2019 meeting were approved by acclamation.

Open Enrollment Update- Kim Hulva, Benefits Coordinator

- Open enrollment closed November 30th
- 1,234 total employees in the open enrollment process
- 946 employees have completed the process; 76% have completed
- 35 employees in progress of the process
- 253 employees have not started the process; still a large number, trying to minimize and find other means to address the large outstanding list
- Open enrollment reopened until Dec 9th

Bond Issuance

- Covault explained the bond issue status
- First round of issuance, \$9.7 million will be received on Thursday, December 5
 - Bank qualified
 - Busey Bank was the only local interest; Busey intended to invest \$3 million early, but in the final only purchased \$700,000 due to repayment length
- Will begin in February with the 2020 issue
 - Early estimate is \$35 million between Health Life Safety and Working Cash, closing (receiving funds) in late April

Transportation Extension

- Covault requested guidance and direction
- Currently in the third year of three (3) year contract with Alltown
- Alltown provided an extension that would result in a 4% increase for FY21 and 4% for FY22
 - 8% increase in first year for Bus Attendant of their contract
- Covault does not recommend rebidding
 - With consolidations and BOLD plan, not timely to also initiate a new transportation provider
- Committee asked about the responsibility of routing
 - Henry Walker has primary responsibility of creating routes and placing students on all regular routes
 - Alltown contractually routes Special Education and Pre-Kindergarten routes

- The District has a contract with Edulog, routing software provider, who provides virtual consultation to combine routes and reduce the number of routes
 - Walker noted that the district pays \$3,000 for this service
 - Edulog doesn't create new routes
 - Primarily looks at optimization and provide support to IT.
 - Walker noted that the Edulog software is an older version; Edulog is moving to cloud based software
- Transportation requested a quote from Alltown to route regular routes; Alltown will provide a quote after the contract extension is finalized
- Mr. Walker corrected a misunderstanding that Edulog was the communication issue with baby sitter addresses; Skyward software provided Edulog software with home address data in lieu of baby sitter addresses.
- Committee refocused; asked for a recommendation
 - Covault recommended to extend the contract with Alltown
- Committee endorsed a one-year extension

Food Service Rebid

- Food Service contract in the fifth year. Required by the ISBE to rebid for FY21
- Contract bid considerations
 - Provide training on trauma informed approaches
 - Customer Care – Not restrictive but examples
 - Upgrade in reduction of waste, not Styrofoam or plastic, and the amount of wasted food
 - Make bid inclusive with district requirements
 - Ability to freeze food and send home with students
- Committee member questions
 - Do you anticipate multiple bidders? Yes
 - How long have they had food service? Approximately 40 years

IMRF

- District received Final rate for Calendar Year 2020
 - Required rate - 10.99%
 - 5.9% is the baseline rate
 - 4.28%ile added due to unfunded liability
 - District has a \$17 million unfunded IMRF liability
 - This portion of rate removed once unfunded liability has been paid
 - District will increase rate by 2%ile and use an internal rate of 12.99% to assist with paying off the unfunded liability
 - Use part of a healthy IMRF fund balance

Levy

- Final Estimated EAV \$701 million
- Tort funds seem well funded
 - Moved a portion of the levy request from Tort to IMRF and FICA/Medicare
- Final levy request built with an intended zero levy rate increase for all funds, not including debt service

- Committee member asked – What is the current EAV?
 - \$698 million. (Note: As of December 16, the estimated EAV has dropped to \$694,720,342)
- Two abatement agreements for the 2011A and 2011B Sales Tax issues will be brought to the board for consideration at the December meeting.

Pre-K Study

- Committee reviewed Pre-K Enrollment and Costs
- 94 students currently on wait list of Pershing
 - All students on wait list are non-special education students
- District Pre-K enrollment data reviewed
 - Superintendent Fregeau collected data
 - Data shows a preference in the morning than afternoon,
- Tuition
 - Based upon collections, estimated 39 students each paid \$180 per month in FY19
 - If students qualify for free lunch, tuition is waived
- Committee member questions:
 - What is the Montessori classroom capacity for Pre-K?
 - 25 students including kindergarten
 - Average of 15 kindergarten
 - 10 PreK Morning/10 PreK afternoon
 - When we move to the new building will there be 8 sections of early childhood?
 - Space provides for 80 PreK students in morning and 80 PreK students in afternoon
 - Where are we with the waiting list?
 - Waiting list for AM only
 - Can currently accommodate waiting list at Enterprise
 - Then there isn't really a wait list?
 - Capacity is currently 70 in the mornings, we are at 67 with 22 in the afternoon.
 - When other classrooms are added at Thomas Jefferson, who is responsible for recruiting those kids?
 - The waiting list doesn't support an additional classroom.
 - A decision was made based upon a large waiting list that doesn't even exist.
 - Who is going to be responsible for filling that up?
- Other follow up question: Next steps and Questions
 - Is District in a year-to-year contract with Edulog?
 - Covault will look into this
 - Find out about the waiting lists at Enterprise
 - Who is going to own this?
 - Are we really going to pay for a half-full day at Dennis, or make it full day?
 - Charge double the tuition for a full day?
 - Have we looked at our competition?
 - Communication needed to families that attend parochial schools

- Let them know District has spaces in Montessori

The committee moved into closed session at 5:09 PM to discuss imminent litigation.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM